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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

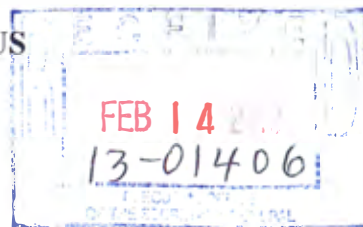
ACTION Ms. O'Brien / Ms. Costar

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Mr. Feltman
Mr. Tallant
AG

Ref.: 24.11.001.009.016



13 February 2013

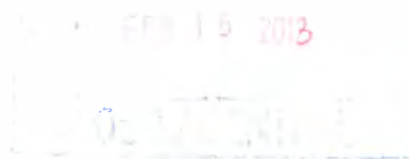
Excellency, Dear colleague and friend,
(Ref. Contag: 12-08607)

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

As you are aware, one of the issues that the Committee has been seized with concerns the difficulties certain Member States have experienced in obtaining appropriate banking facilities to support their Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York. With the assistance of your Government and the UN Secretariat, almost all of the Permanent Missions have managed to find suitable banking services. However, the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic continues to face difficulties in obtaining such services. At the 260th meeting of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country on 31 January 2013, the delegate from the Permanent Mission of Syria reiterated his Mission's grave concern that his Mission remained without appropriate banking services and was thus finding it very difficult to operate. The Mission was presently operating on a cash basis. He recalled the obligations of the Host Country and the Secretary-General to assist his Mission in finding an appropriate banking solution. I acknowledged the seriousness of the situation facing his Mission and pledged to inform the Secretary-General that the matter had again been raised by the Permanent Mission of Syria in the Committee and stated that I would continue to work with the Host Country and the UN Secretariat and assist in finding an appropriate solution.

In this regard, I understand that Sudan also remains without appropriate banking services. However, Sudan did not raise the matter in the Committee at its 260th session on 31 January 2013.

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I am sure that you will agree with me that this remains a serious concern that must be resolved so that all of the Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations are able to properly operate in New York and support the participation of their representatives in the work of the United Nations.

As I have previously indicated, I remain available to work with the United States Government and the UN Secretariat in finding a solution and in this regard I look forward to discussing possible options with you and representatives of the United States Government.

Yours Sincerely,

N. E---

Nicholas Emiliou
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
Chairman of the Committee on
Relations with the Host Country

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